# ROTARY VOICE

**The Rotary Club of Toronto** 

#### Volume 105 | Issue 28 | March 16, 2018

#### **Today's Program**

Jagmeet Singh, Federal NDP Leader

#### Topic

With Love and Courage, We Can Build a Better Canada

*reliable Rotarian* **Location** Fairmont Royal York, Ballroom, C Level

John Andras, an always

Host



Jagmeet Singh grew up in Scarborough, St. John's, and Windsor, and served as an Ontario MPP from 2011 until 2017 when he became leader of Canada's NDP. Guided by values rooted in his experiences growing up, Jagmeet is building a fairer, more just Canada where everyone can realize their dreams.

Jagmeet's parents came to Canada to build a better life. His family worked hard to make ends meet so that Jagmeet and his younger siblings could follow their dreams and believe that anything is possible.

Like others who stand out, Jagmeet faced a lot of bullying in school and felt like he didn't belong. But even then he realized he wasn't alone.

Jagmeet's early experiences are what shaped him and fuel his passion for justice. He developed a sensitivity to the unfairness that others experience, and in solidarity, committed himself to fighting injustice in all its forms.

Jagmeet has been fighting for fairness ever since. At university, he was an outspoken activist who fought against raising tuition fees. He studied law so he could support community organizations fighting poverty, keeping tuition affordable, and advocating for equal access to justice for marginalized communities.

But the people and communities Jagmeet fought for needed an ally in government – so he decided to run. Right from the start, Jagmeet was told that a New Democrat could never win a seat in the Peel Region. He refused to believe the cynics.

By mobilizing young people and providing a space for them to take on leadership roles in their own community, Jagmeet and his team proved the critics wrong and won – and Jagmeet went straight to work.

Jagmeet used his platform as an MPP and Deputy Leader of Ontario's NDP to fight for a fairer society. He took on the discriminatory practice of arbitrary police checks known as carding. He spoke up repeatedly on the need for good jobs and an end to precarious work. And he fought for the protection and expansion of public ownership over our utilities and public infrastructure. Jagmeet ran to be leader of the NDP because he believes that Canada can be a place where everyone can succeed, together. He believes that if we lift up the people around us, we all rise.

As leader, Jagmeet is putting everything he has into building that Canada. That means fighting for good jobs to combat growing inequality. It means a real plan for our environment that includes workers and their families. It means pursuing true reconciliation with Indigenous communities. And it means addressing our electoral system to ensure that our democracy truly represents the will of all Canadians when it comes time to vote.

Jagmeet believes that it takes an act of love to realize that we're all in this together and an act of courage to demand better, dream bigger, and fight for a more just and inclusive world.

# Roadmap to 2020, Update # 14 – Process and technology Be Ready on March 23<sup>rd</sup>

As you know from our last week's update, initiatives voted as the most important by club members were grouped into 8 streams and sequenced to form our Roadmap to 2020. Our first grouping is initiatives that touch on 'process and technology' in helping make our club more efficient and effective. These initiatives look at coming up with simple solutions to the challenges that Rotarians face and improve the way we do our Rotary work.

This includes joining committee meetings from anywhere on a video conference using your smartphone, being able to see all club events and lunches with a touch of a button and keeping your schedules organized, having access to on-demand information. There is a realtime suggestion box (survey.rotartytoronto.com) so our club executives can review and act on them as appropriate, knowing which events need volunteers and being able to sign-up in advance, sharing our stories to better connect with supporters, volunteers and donors, collaborating and innovating together to make a major difference in the communities we serve, building fundraising campaigns that tie supporters' donations to their impact, making it easy for them to give at any level, and so much more.

There are already 30+ initiatives identified in this stream and we are working on them one at a time over the next 2 years, rolling them out and training Rotarians as needed. If you are familiar with G Suite, you can be a training buddy to help other Rotarians as we roll this out. Contact Brent Thomas or Prince Kumar.

By now, some of you have already received an email to activate your new '@rotarytoronto.com' account. This is the first step! Please follow the instructions to ensure your account is active. We will be launching 'Google for non-profits' and talking more about the G Suite offering in our next Friday's lunch Mar 23<sup>rd</sup>, so you get a taste of what is to come. We look forward to your interactive participation.

## Steam Whistle March 29<sup>th</sup> Our only Fundraiser This Year!

Please join us on March 29th or donate to the cause. President Pat's goal is \$100,000.

Register or donate online at **https://goo.gl/pwnX1w** or call the office.

# YOU'RE INVITED

The Rotary Club of Toronto's

THE STEAM WHISTLE BREWERY Thursday, March 29<sup>™</sup>, 2018 at 6:30 pm

The Steam Whistle Brewery 285 Bremner Blvd.

#### GREAT FOOD, GAMES & PRIZES! ADMISSION IS ONLY \$150 AND INCLUDES DINNER!

ALL PROCEEDS RAISED WILL GO TOWARDS ROTARY'S MANY CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES, INCLUDING THE SHERBOURNE HEALTH BUS



The Rotary Club of Toronto's Sherbourne Health Bus is a mobile unit that provides an entry point to healthcare services for people who often face barriers in accessing traditional health care services.

The Health Bus makes regular stops at community locations (shelters, drop-ins and specialized community agencies) so individuals can come aboard to receive services targeted to their needs.

Help us to serve the marginalized people in our community...give generously!

CORPORATE TABLES FOR 10 WITH CORPORATE RECOGNITION \$1750

# **RI Toronto Convention (June 23-27)**

Can you spare 3 or 4 hours to be a Volunteer Ambassador when the world comes to visit us?

#### Go to: rotary2018.org/volunteer

Once you set up your personal Vroom password, all the shifts will be shown. Choose the day(s) you can help and where you'd like to be.

Jobs inside MTCC – you must be registered for the Convention to work inside the Metro Convention Centre.

Jobs outside MTCC – you, your family members (over 17 years of age) and friends do not need to be registered for the Convention, however, you must have a Rotarian vouch for you, when signing up.

We'll need a limited amount of volunteers at the Evening Events, both on Saturday, June 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Rock at the Distillery OR Jazz at the Aquarium and we'll need about 90 volunteers at our final Evening Event on Tuesday, June 26<sup>th</sup> at ROTARYFEST. We'll need volunteers at Pearson Terminals 1 & 3 and Billy Bishop Airports, at 10 Downtown hotels and Union Station.

You'll have lots of fun and welcome people from around the world. Don't you want to be part of the excitement when over 30,000 visit us in June?

# CAMP SCUGOG WEEKEND

When: May 25-27

**Cost:** Rotarian \$100.00, Rotaractor \$80.00 includes 2 dinners and breakfasts and 1 lunch (you can't afford to stay home).

Where: Camp Scugog just outside Port Perry just over an hour from Toronto.

What is Lake Scugog Camp: A fresh air camp for children, teens and Mothers so that they can gain new knowledge, attitudes and skills in a safe environment.

**Why them:** Because they are a non-profit camp focused on needy children in the central Toronto. They have little funding and need us very much.

#### Why should I come:

- "A magnificent fence was erected, many cabins were painted and spiffed up, and the transformation was apparent to all. The Camp staff were there working along side of us, and their gratitude was palpable. I have left much out, but the important thing to know is this; in my opinion, the Camp Weekend is the best thing you can do all year, to fully experience the rewards of being a member of our great Club".
- "All in all, I will remember the weekend as a time of feast, fellowship and fortitude. And although I quipped that "never again" would I attend, I wouldn't miss it for the world"
- "The food and comradeship was amazing"

**A promise:** I can promise you that there will be lots of hard work - painting, nailing, fixing etc. and you will enjoy every minute. There will be laughter, song and incredible food prepared by your fellow members.

If you have been to Camp you probably already have the date in your calendar. If you have not put it in now so you don't miss out, May 25-27. If you can't come for the whole weekend come for the day. If you have any questions don't hesitate to ask me. Susan Howson showson@mackieresearch.com

Register today at: https://goo.gl/QGt00J or contact the office

# **The Fellowship and Entertainment Brunch**

What: Saturday Brunch

When: April 7, 2018 At 11:30Am Where: La Vecchia Restaurant, 2405A Yonge St (Yonge And Eglinton)

The Fellowship and Entertainment Committee is delighted to invite you to a Saturday lunch at La Vecchia Restaurant.

La Vecchia offers outstanding authentic Italian cuisine, great selection of Italian wines, relaxed ambience, rustic and yet modern vibe.

The lunch is à la carte where you will choose from a wide variety of offerings including meats, vegetarian dishes, frittata, pasta and an amazing pizza selection.

Please reserve your spot today, bring your family! We look forward to seeing you on April 7. RSVP: please send your reservation to Anna Koneva anna.y.koneva@gmail.com by April 4

Limit: 16 people, Price: A la carte, payment at the restaurant

## Welcome New Member Debbie Snider!



Debbie grew up in Napanee, Ontario where she started out as a co-op student working for Grange and Grange Law Firm which peaked her interest in law and business. She stayed with that firm for 17 years while at the same time, started her first corporation at the age of 18 to run a residential building company with her partner and raising a family and also going to school to further her education.

In 1998 an opportunity arose to buy a franchise for an environmental building product so the decision was made to move to Barrie to start a distribution company and also

worked as a real estate manager for a law firm in Barrie until the business grew to a point where it needed her full attention.

That distribution company quickly grew to become a top producer in Canada and led to the start of a new business of which she was one of the partners who founded a manufacturing/distribution company for a newly developed ICF product. She was the owner/general manager of this company from 2001 which she started from scratch and grew to have over 150 distributors selling product in over 30 countries.

Although her business was very successful, she feels her greatest success is her two beautiful children. She sold her shares in the business 2015 and moved to Toronto 7 years ago for a sabbatical from business but after spending some time travelling, quickly got back into the university courses and obtained her PMP project management designation.

She loves studying and learning new things but in her time off, enjoys travelling and being anywhere near water especially the serenity of cottage life in the Kawarthas. She is looking forward to all the new experiences that will come as being a member of the Rotary Club.

### Scholarship For Water And Sanitation Professionals

Dear district governors, district Rotary Foundation committee chairs, district scholarships subcommittee chairs, and district grants subcommittee chairs:

The Rotary Foundation and IHE Delft Institute for Water Education work together to tackle the world's water and sanitation crisis. We're offering up to 10 scholarships for graduate study at the IHE Delft campus in the Netherlands. The partnership aims to increase the number of trained professionals who can plan and implement water and sanitation solutions in developing areas. The scholarships are also designed to promote long-term, productive relationships between Rotarians and skilled water and sanitation professionals in their communities.

Scholars will receive a Master of Science degree in urban water and sanitation, water management, or water science and engineering. Graduates work with their sponsor Rotary clubs on a related project to benefit their local community. The application is due 15 June. For more information, review the application toolkit and scholarship terms and conditions.

I am pleased to announce that the Rotary International office in Zurich, Switzerland, will coordinate this scholarship program. If you have questions, please write to Vanessa Court-Payen at vanessa.court-payen@rotary.org.

Sincerely,

Abby McNear Rotary Grants Manager +1-847-425-5656 **RI President** lan Riseley **District Governor** Neil Phillips, Toronto



AKING

Officers: President: Pat Neuman President-Elect: Jeff Dobson Vice President: Kevin Power

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Editor of the Week: Maureen Bird

Editor March 23, 2018: Brian Porter

*What You Missed* Reporter for March 16, 2018: Bert Steenburgh

# The Four-way test of the things we think, say, or do

- 1. Is it the Truth?
- 2. Is it Fair to all concerned?
- 3. Will it Build Goodwill and Better Friendships?
- 4. Will it be Beneficial to all concerned?

# Upcoming Speakers & Events

#### March

- 23 Prince Kumar, Google for Non Profits
- 30 NO MEETING, Good Friday

#### April

- 6 Fair Trade Canada
- 13 Wellington Brewery
- 20 Mark Cullen, Earth Day
- 27 Michele Fisher, Life After the Armed Forces

#### **Events**

March 25	District Curling Event
March 29	Club Fundraiser, Steam Whistle Brewery
April 6	Brunch at La Vecchia
April 22	Highway of Heroes -Tree Planting
April 28	Rotary Walk for AIDS
May 5	Historic Walking Tour, June Brown
May 25-27	Camp Scugog
May 30	WIC, Walk a mile in her shoes
June 23-27	BI Convention

Propose a Speaker – Contact Mario Voltolina, Chair mario.Voltolina@gmail.com

Tel: 416-720-7236

Send articles to therotaryvoice@gmail.com

Editor-in-chief: Maureen Bird

#### What You Missed March 9, 2018 - by Lori Brazier



On the day after International Women's Day we paid homage to women and women's issues. It all began with a cheque-issuing ceremony: a \$50,000 Foundation grant to the Toronto Centre for Community Development's Immigrant Women Integration Project. This funding

will enable technology investments needed to extend newcomers training and other programs to additional neighbourhoods. Past President Michele Guy introduced our guests.



Another great action of our Foundation

Women's Initiatives Chair, Chantelle McDonald outlined the history of women in Rotary. Although many clubs sought to induct women into Rotary as early as the 1960s and 1970s, Rotary International consistently denied the applications. The Rotary Club of Duarte, California defied the ruling, admitted some female members in 1977, lost status with RI, and was not reinstated until 1986 – 9 years later and after court battles that went all the way up to the US Supreme Court. May 1987 marked the first official entry of women into Rotary ranks, with the chartering of the Rotary Club of Marin Sunrise in California - with women as charter members. In 1988, RI authorized Canadian clubs to induct female members - and with that Pauline Hill joined The Rotary Club of Toronto, followed by Michele Guy who became our first women president. Today a quarter million women are Rotarians, and our ranks are growing. Although our club is still 70% male, our committee leadership is evenly split between men and women. Certainly our women are among our most active members! Chantelle also spoke of other support from WIC in Toronto: donations to Elizabeth Fry and to Interval House. The committee is also seeking to organize a sweat equity event for members of our club to cook meals for women at Interval House. Watch for details! Another great upcoming event is the annual "Walk a Mile in Her Shoes" event on May 30th. We hope our male members will join us in an hour walk at David Pecaut Square to promote an end to violence against women.

Chantelle then introduced speaker Paulette Senior, CEO of the Canadian Women's Foundation (CWF). Key challenges for women in our community are poverty, abusive relationships, violence and self-confidence, she claims. 21% of women today are raising families in impoverished conditions, without sufficient access to affordable housing or childcare. For visible minorities, the figure is even higher at 28% and climbs to 37% among First Nations Women! Too frequently, this means women stay in abusive relationships, believing they have no other option. Children living in poverty suffer ill health. Girls and young women are too-often lacking in confidence; by grade 10, only 14% of girls express feelings of self-confidence. Girls also feel the pressure of stereotypes that keep them away from science, math and engineering - and consequently limit their career paths. Top all of that with racial inequality - and we have too many women starting adult life at a disadvantage.

Recognizing these challenges, the CWF funds programs aimed at getting women out of violence, out of poverty. This includes

training programs to help women learn trades or business skills so that they can stand on their own...which might include empowerment leave abusive to relationships. Programs in schools provide girls with sex education aimed at helping them violence avoid and abusive relationships. Other programs help girls build the self-



Can Tony Houghton walk a mile in June Brown's shoes on May 30<sup>th</sup>?

confidence required to thrive in the working world. The CWF's Leadership Institute also offers specific training in leadership skills and mentoring programs. We can hope that the future will be brighter thanks to this foundation's great work. Our speaker's gift was the very appropriate donation to 416 Community Support for Women.

Fittingly, we also welcomed in our newest member, Debbie Snider, a former practising lawyer and successful entrepreneur.

Doug Hughes pulled the winning 50/50 ticket and took home wine. The pot remains intact for next week's meeting at the Royal York with speaker Jagmeet Singh.



 The Rotary Club of Toronto

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